

From: Editor, News and Publications Department 10th March 1975
 Subject: STANDARDISATION: FBIS/BBC SOURCE LINES. 27.2.75 AND 5.3.75
 To: Chief Editor, FBIS London Bureau

Attendance at meetings on the above dates was the same as at earlier meetings.

It was agreed: (1) that the views of FBIS Headquarters would be sought on the BBC's basic principle governing sourcelines - that the sourceline should contain no information that is not available from monitoring; (2) that further agreement on standardisation of sourcelines would be conditional upon acceptance of this principle; (3) that sourcelines for press agency transmissions should include destination when this was supplied by the agency; (4) that description of press agency transmissions (whether teletype, morse or voice) need not be included in sourcelines; (5) that for the time being sourcelines for Chinese radios should remain unaltered.

The label "clandestine" was further discussed, the meeting noting [redacted] suggestion that "unlicensed" or "unregistered" should be considered as alternatives but concluding that both were open to objection. The meeting gave qualified approval to the BBC's suggestion that word or phrase indicating unannounced location should replace "clandestine" for such radios when these were known not to be in territories they addressed; and that "clandestine" should be reserved for radios (e.g. the Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan) which might be located inside the area of their intended audience.

For further discussion: use of "clandestine"; exclusion of "service" from sourcelines and bracketing of "domestic" and "external"; omission of "domestic" from sourcelines for TV transmissions.

No date was set for next meeting.

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